

**MATH EDUCATION INITIATIVE**

2009 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

---

---

**LONG TITLE****General Description:**

This bill creates a program that awards grants to school districts and charter schools that offer Singapore math in grades kindergarten through 8 and meet other math curriculum requirements.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- ▶ requires the Legislature to annually appropriate money to the State Board of Education for the Math Education Initiative, subject to future budget constraints;
- ▶ directs the State Board of Education to make grants to school districts and charter schools from monies appropriated for the Math Education Initiative to help pay for costs of participating in the Math Education Initiative;
- ▶ requires a school district or charter school that participates in the Math Education Initiative to:
  - offer Singapore math in grades kindergarten through 8 and certain mathematics courses beyond grade 8;
  - schedule elementary and secondary math classes on a daily basis and for an average of four to five hours weekly;
  - require a minimum of 144 hours of instruction and testing for one unit of secondary math; and
  - provide professional development to teachers in Singapore math; and
- ▶ provides for an exemption from math curriculum standards adopted by the State Board of Education for a school district or charter school that participates in the Math Education Initiative.

**Monies Appropriated in this Bill:**

This bill appropriates as an ongoing appropriation subject to future budget constraints, \$3,000,000 from the Uniform School Fund for fiscal year 2009-10 to the State Board of Education.

33 **Other Special Clauses:**

34 This bill provides an effective date.

35 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

36 ENACTS:

37 **53A-17a-163**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

38

39 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*40 Section 1. Section **53A-17a-163** is enacted to read:41 **53A-17a-163. Math Education Initiative.**42 (1) As used in this section, "Singapore math" means the math curriculum created by the  
43 education ministry in Singapore for use in Singapore schools and encompassing the textbooks,  
44 workbooks, and other materials based on the math curriculum.45 (2) The Math Education Initiative is created to:46 (a) make Utah the premier state for math education and a recognized source of skilled  
47 scientists and engineers;48 (b) meet the demand of Utah employers for workers with high math skills; and49 (c) entice companies that require a highly skilled technical workforce to locate in the  
50 state.51 (3) (a) Subject to future budget constraints, the Legislature shall annually appropriate  
52 money to the State Board of Education for the Math Education Initiative.53 (b) From monies appropriated for the Math Education Initiative, the State Board of  
54 Education shall award grants to school districts and charter schools to help pay for a school  
55 district's or charter school's costs of participating in the Math Education Initiative as specified  
56 in Subsection (8).57 (4) Participation in the Math Education Initiative is voluntary for school districts and  
58 charter schools.59 (5) (a) A school district or charter school that participates in the Math Education  
60 Initiative shall:61 (i) adopt Singapore math for grades kindergarten through 8, except as provided in  
62 Subsection (5)(b);63 (ii) beyond grade 8, offer:

(A) honors and regular sections of algebra 1, geometry, and algebra 2, taught from a small group of high quality textbooks recommended by the State Instructional Materials Commission;

(B) an honors pre-calculus course that corresponds to Math 1050, college algebra, and Math 1060, trigonometry, at Utah higher education institutions so that high achieving students can receive college credit through concurrent enrollment; and

(C) calculus and statistics courses that meet the standards for the Advanced Placement exams;

(iv) schedule elementary and secondary math classes:

(A) on a daily basis throughout the school year; and

(B) for an average of four to five hours weekly;

(v) require a minimum of 144 hours of instruction and testing time for one unit of secondary math; and

(vi) provide professional development to teachers in Singapore math.

(b) (i) A school district or charter school may phase in the adoption of the Singapore math curriculum in grades kindergarten through 8 over two or more years.

(ii) A school district may phase in the adoption of the Singapore math curriculum throughout all schools in the school district over two or more years.

(c) If a school district or charter school has insufficient enrollment in a higher level math class listed in Subsection (5)(a)(ii) to justify the cost of hiring an instructor for the class, the school district or charter school may offer the class through distance education, including interactive video conferencing and online instruction.

(6) The State Board of Education shall exempt a school district or charter school that participates in the Math Education Initiative from the mathematics curriculum standards adopted by the board under Sections 53A-1-402 and 53A-1-402.6 if the school district or charter school adopts math curriculum standards aligned with Singapore math and the courses specified in Subsections (5)(a)(ii)(A) through (C).

(7) (a) To participate in the Math Education Initiative, a school district or charter school shall submit a proposal to the State Board of Education.

(b) (i) The State Board of Education shall appoint an advisory committee to review the proposals and make recommendations to the board on awarding grants to school districts and

95 charter schools to participate in the Math Education Initiative.

96 (ii) The advisory committee appointed under Subsection (7)(b)(i) shall consist of five  
97 members of whom:

98 (A) three members shall be mathematicians who serve or have served as a math  
99 professor at a higher education institution in Utah that offers graduate level degrees in  
100 mathematics; and

101 (B) two additional members shall have a high level of expertise in mathematics.

102 (8) (a) The State Board of Education shall award grants to school districts and charter  
103 schools in the amount of \$60 per student in grades kindergarten through 8 who participates in  
104 the Math Education Initiative, except after a school district's or charter school's first year of  
105 participation, a grant may be awarded in the amount of \$60 for each additional student in  
106 grades kindergarten through grade 8 who participates in the Math Education Initiative.

107 (b) A school district or charter school may use the grant monies to pay for Singapore  
108 math instructional materials or professional development in teaching Singapore math.

109 **Section 2. Appropriation.**

110 As an ongoing appropriation subject to future budget constraints, there is appropriated  
111 \$3,000,000 from the Uniform School Fund for fiscal year 2009-10 to the State Board of  
112 Education for grants to school districts and charter schools that participate in the Math  
113 Education Initiative created in Section 53A-17a-163.

114 **Section 3. Effective date.**

115 (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), if approved by two-thirds of all the members  
116 elected to each house, this bill takes effect upon approval by the governor, or the day following  
117 the constitutional time limit of Utah Constitution Article VII, Section 8, without the governor's  
118 signature, or in the case of a veto override.

119 (2) Uncodified Section 2, Appropriation, takes effect on July 1, 2009.